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विकास शील अपर सचिव VIKAS SHEEL Additional Secretary

D.O. No. 1940407/2020/Imm. Dated, 16th May 2021

भारत सरकार स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110011

Dear Colleague,

Please refer to the D.O. No. 1940407/2020/Imm., dated 13th May 2021, vide which the recommendations of the NEGVAC and their acceptance, regarding the minimum stipulated period of 12 to 16 weeks after 1st dose, for the 2nd dose of COVISHIELD vaccine was communicated.

Please take note that the requisite changes have now been done in the CoWIN portal. As a result –

- 1. Further online or on-site appointments will not be possible if the period after 1st dose date for a beneficiary is less than 84 days.
- 2. Already booked online appointments for 2nd dose will remain valid and are not being cancelled by COWIN. Beneficiaries may be advised through suitable IEC that they should reschedule their appointments for a later date beyond the 84th day from the date of 1st dose vaccination.
- 3. If however, a pre-booked beneficiary chooses to take the 2nd dose of vaccine even if the period for him/her is less than 84 days, COWIN system will allow vaccination of such beneficiaries.

In light of the above, it is reiterated that the online appointments booked for 2nd dose of COVISHELD prior to this change, must be honoured. The field staff may be instructed that, if such beneficiaries do come for vaccination, **the second dose must be administered and they must not be turned away**. Suitable IEC may also be done in this regard.

Warm regards
Yours sincerely

To,

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Health-All States/UTs

Copy to:-

- Dr. R. S. Sharma, Chairman Empowered Group on COVID Vaccination & C.E.O., N.H.A.
- 2. PPS to Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, MoHFW
- 3. PPS to AS&MD, National Health Mission, MoHFW
- 4. Shri Pankaj Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.
- 5. PPS to AS(MA), MoHFW
- 6. [S(SY)/TS(MKB), MoHFW = for communication to vaccine manufacturers.
- 7. Mission Director, National Health Mission All States/UTs
- 8. Advisor, RCH, Immunization Division, MoHFW

(Vikas Sheel)